A SIXTH

Collection of Papers

Relating to the

Preſent Juncture of Affairs in *England.*

VIZ.

I. Five Letters from *Scotland*, giving Account of expelling Popery from thence.

II. The Prince of *Orange*'s Speech to the Scots Lords and Gentlemen met at St. *James*'s. With their Advice to the Prince, to take upon him the Adminiſtration of the Affairs of *Scotland*. With his Highneſs's Anſwer.

III. A Letter to a Friend, adviſing in this Extraordiry Juncture, how to Free the Nation from Slavery.

IV. The Application of the Biſhop and Clergy of *London* to the Prince of *Orange*, *Sept.* 21. 1688.

V. An Addreſs of the Nonconformiſt Miniſters of *London*, to the Prince of *Orange*.

VI. The Addreſs of the City of *Briſtol* to the Prince of *Orange*.

VII. A Word to the Wiſe, for Setling the Government.

VIII. A Modeſt Propoſal to the preſent Convention.

IX. An Hiſtorical Account touching the Succeſſion of the Crown.

X. A Narrative of the Miſeries of *New-England*, by reaſon of an Arbitrary Government erected there.

Licenſed and Entred according to Order.

London printed, and are to be ſold by *Richard Janeway* in Queen's-head-Court in *Pater-noſter-Row*, 1689.

Advertiſement.

WHereas there is a ſixth and ſeventh Collection of old Papers with new Title-Pages (remote from the preſent Juncture of Affairs) publiſhed by *R. Baldwin*; The Reader is deſired to take notice that the Perſon that collected the firſt five Parts, will continue them from time to time as often as matter occurs, in which he will take care not to impoſe any thing but what is new and genuine, and worth the Reader's Money. To be ſold by *Richard Janeway* in Queen's-Head Court in *Pater-Noſter-Row*, who ſells the former five, and ſo all that ſhall follow.

Five LETTERS

From a Gentleman in *Scotland*, to his Friend in *LONDON.*

Being a True Account of what Remarkable Paſſages have happened ſince the Prince's Landing; The manner of the taking of the Chancellor, and his Lady in Man's Apparel; The burning of the Pope, Demoliſhing of the Popiſh Chappels, &c. *with the total overthrow of the* Roman Catholicks.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 3. 1688.

THE Students of the Univerſity here, deſigned ſome time ago to burn the Pope's *Effigies*; but that was not more zealouſly deſired to be prevented by ſome, than to be done by others: Notwithſtanding all the imaginable Care taken to prevent it, yet it was done about Ten Days ago, after day-light gone, at the Croſs, and blown up with Art, that ſeems to have been beyond their Invention,

above four Stories high. Two Days thereafter they went to the *Parliament-Houſe*, at mid-day, paſſing by the Guards, crying, *No Pope*, *No Papiſt*: And being got into the *Parliament-Houſe*, (after they had required the Guards to be preſent at the Sentence) and having got upon the Bench, they Arraigned his *Holineſs* before his Judges, and gave the Jury their Commiſſion, who brought him in Guilty; whereupon, he was ſentenced to be burnt publickly at the Croſs the Twenty Fifth of this Inſtant; and withal declared, and proteſted for a *Free Parliament*.

On *Sunday* laſt, Advertiſement was given by a Papiſt, to a Gentlewoman, to remove her ſelf out of this City, and to carry out her Husband's Papers forthwith, becauſe that Night there ſhould be here a hot Wakening, ſuch as had not been heretofore; and adviſed her to give the ſame Advice to any of her Friends ſhe pleaſed.

Your Friend Mr. *M.* being acquainted with this, he revealed the ſame to ſeveral of our Magiſtrates, (which, as is alledged, was not regarded) he went thereafter and acquainted the Guard of our *Trained-Bands* therewith; whereupon Captain *Patrick Johnſtoun* (*Hilton*'s Brother) cauſed to beat the Drums, and the Noiſe having gone abroad, and ſeveral Perſons having ordered their Arms, and People flocking together to conſider what was fit to be done, the Magiſtrates, with the Council, convened for the ſame purpoſe. A great many Boys met alſo, and went through the whole Town, crying aloud, *No Pope*, *No Papiſt*, *No Popiſh Chancellor*, *No* Melfort, *No Father* Peters. But the Gates were ſhut, the Magiſtrates went along the Streets for the keeping of the Peace; and nothing more was done that Night, except the breaking of three or four Glaſs-Windows of *Papiſts* Houſes, and that ſome of the Boys got up to the Croſs, and proclaimed a *Free-Parliament*, and offered Two Thouſand Pounds for *Melford*'s Head; ſo that Night paſt over, when all People here were in fear of ſome ill Deſigns, and the rather, becauſe of their certain knowledg that there were lying in the Suburbs, a great many Hundreds of *Highland-men*, (or rather Thouſands) and that all that day the Abbey Gates were exactly kept by Souldiers, Commanded by Captain *Wallace* a *Papiſt*, and none admitted to enter except *Papiſts* or *Highland-men*.

On

On *Monday*, about mid-day, the Chancellor parted thence and went towards the *Highlands*, by Advice of ſeveral of the Privy Council and his Friends, and took a good Guard with him. At Night the Students went (without Arms) to the Abbey, to condemn the Pope, and to Proclaim a *Free Parliament*, and perhaps to burn what was contained in the Chappel, but without asking Queſtions, were repulſed by a ſhower of Ball, whereby ſeveral were wounded, and ſome ſince dead of their Wounds; which coming to the Privy Councils Knowledg, (which was then ſitting) they called the Town Council (then alſo met) and Captain *Grahame*; deſired them to ſee to the preſervance of the Peace, and ſent Six Heralds with an Order to Captain *Wallace* and his Men, to lay down their Arms, render themſelves Priſoners, and deliver their Guards to the Magiſtrates, but they were anſwered by Ball; which being reported to the Privy Council, they forthwith ordered Captain *Grahame* and his Company, Trained-Bands and *Militia*, to fall upon them, which they did; *Wallace* and his Men fled, ſeveral of them were taken, and ſome wounded, as were ſome of Captain *Grahame*'s Men. The Rabble were ſo incenſed upon the firing, and ſuppoſition that it was Boys were killed, that they burnt all that was contained in the Chappel, the Jeſuits Colledg, the Popiſh Printing-houſe, the Abbey Church, the Chancellor's Lodgings; and generally, all that was contained in the Houſes of Papiſts, in the Town and Cannon-gate, excepting what was taken away by ſome People who deſigned Plunder.

They had Fires in the Abbey-Court, and at the Croſs, all the Night, and ſpared nothing they got in Papiſts Houſes. Some few Houſes were ſpared at the interceſſion of ſome Proteſtants their Friends, and after true enquiry, I heard the Loſs is called greater than it is. None of the Papiſts themſelves were killed or wounded; they met with few of them, thoſe they got they carried into the Guard.

In ſome of the Popiſh Houſes, they found Arms and Barrels of Powder, which provoked to a more narrow ſearch. All this time the Caſtle never fired one Gun, which is more attributed to the Duke of *Gordon*, than to any other inferior Officer. I am told, the Council ſent and diſcharged an Execution from the Caſtle. Some of the Boys are dead of their Wounds.

Traquair (a Popiſh Lord) and ſeveral others went to, and continue in the Caſtle for their ſecurity. The Council ordered the ſearching for Ammunition and Arms in ſome Popiſh Houſes in the Country, and this day committed a Warrant for the reſtoring of what was plundred out of the Papiſts Houſes.

I had forgot to tell you, that on *Monday* laſt the Privy Council disbanded Six Hundred Men, taken on the *Friday* before, and commanded all the *Highlanders* forthwith to depart upon pain of Death; and yeſterday ordered all Gentlemen to depart out of the Town, excepting ſuch as ſhould give account of their Buſineſs to ſome of the Privy Council. I am credibly informed, that this day in the Privy Council, was voted an Addreſs to be made to his Majeſty for a *Free Parliament*; there are ſeveral Noblemen and Gentlemen gone from hence into *England*, and more to follow, but it's ſuſpected they are going to the Prince of *Orange*.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 20.

WHen the Chancellor went away privately from the Abbey for *Caſtle Drummond*, he gave ſtrict Command to Captain *Wallace* to preſerve the Chappel, *&c.* The Rabble having gathered and procured Links, without any Fire-Arms, about Six at Night went to the Abbey, and were denied acceſs; whereupon, ſome preſſing forward, *Wallace* commanded his Souldiers to fire, which they did, and killed and wounded about Twenty, whereof one half died ſhortly after. The Rabble retired to the City with a great Noiſe, towards the Entry to the Court of the Parliament-Houſe, where ſome of the Lords of the Privy-Council were ſitting. There ſome Weſt-Country Gentlemen encouraged them to proſecute a Revenge, and got the Provoſt of the City to go to the Houſe of Lords, and told them, if they would not give a Warrant to aſſault *Wallace*, and force him from the Abbey, they would do it without it. The Lords being alarm'd with the Slaughter, and a Report that ſeveral Gentlemens Sons were killed,

and

and ſome of their own; they ordered a Herald at Arms, with ſound of Trumpet, to command *Wallace* in the King's Name to give up his Guard at the Abbey to the City: And the Company under the Cities Pay marched firſt, commanded by Captain *Grahame*, and after them all the Train'd-Bands and Militia, to force him in caſe of refuſal; ſeveral Gentlemen accompanying *Grahame*, and the Magiſtrates attending, *Wallace* refuſed the Herald, and fired upon *Grahame*, and the reſt behind, wounded ſome Gentlemen and a few Souldiers: But *Grahame* marched quickly down a Lane on the South-ſide of the Porch of the Abbey-Court where *Wallace* was poſted, and by a back way entered the Court, came upon *Wallace*'s Reer, and the Town Companies fronting him; after the firſt Fire he and all his Men fled, only a few of them were taken, the moſt part eſcaping under the Darkneſs of the Night. The City being thus Maſter of the Abbey, the Rabble immediately, without oppoſition, went firſt to the Chappel, forced the Doors, broke all to pieces, ard carried ſeveral parcels in Triumph up to the Croſs, and burnt them there.

The next day ſtrong Guards were ſat through the whole City and Suburbs, in convenient places, to repreſs any farther Tumults; and ſo all was quiet, and continues ſo.

This Morning there was coming into *Leith* a Boat from *Burnt-Iſland*, with eighty Men aboard, being a part of two or three hundred which had been ſent for by the Duke of *Gordon* from the North to reinforce the Caſtle, and the reſt to follow. But the Bayliff of *Leith* having notice before-hand of their coming, ſent on Board and diſcharged their coming into the Harbor, and deſired to ſpeak with their Commander, who came aſhoar, and owned the Deſign, being believed to be all Papiſts: He was ſeized, and the Men commanded back to the other Shoar, under the higheſt Pains.

The Lords of the Treaſury have called in all Commiſſions given to Papiſts, for collecting His Majeſty's Revenue.

Edin-

Edinburgh, Decemb. 22.

THE Chancellor thinking, as Affairs ſtood, he was not ſecure at home, reſolved for *France*; and with all the Privacy imaginable, he in Womans and his Lady in Mans Clothes, got aboard a Veſſel bound from this *Firth* the 20*th* inſtant, being Thurſday; which ſet Sail, the Wind being fair: But a certain Perſon on Horſe-back, riding by *Kircaldie*, where the Seamen uſe to walk, called to them and told them, there was a good Prize in that Ship under Sail, namely, the Chancellor of *Scotland*. Whereupon, about thirty ſix common Sea-men, commanded by one *Wilſon*, that had been a Bucaneer in *America*, which had Guns or Muskets, manag'd a light Boat, and without any Proviſion ſave a little Brandy, or any Order from a Magiſtrate, ſet Sail immediately, and came up with the Ship that Night, boarded her, inquired for the Chancellor, whom they denied to be aboard; but after ſearch, found him and his Lady cloathed as aforeſaid, brought the Ship back, and carried the Priſoners, with Mr. *Nicolſon* (a Prieſt, late Regent in the Colledg of *Glaſgow*) aſhoar to *Kircaldie* Talbooth (or Priſon.) The Chancellor wrote Letters yeſterday to ſeveral of the Privy-Council, complaining of the Injury done him. The Council have ordered him to be carried by the Earl of *Marr*, and a Company of the *Militia*, to *Sterling*-Caſtle.

The Duke of *Gordon* has been deſired by the Council to lay down his Charge of Governour of the Caſtle, but he ſtill declines it; alledging, that ſeeing he has his Commiſſion immediately from the King, and to be accountable to none elſe, he cannot in Honour lay it down till he has His Majeſty's Command for it, and ſays he had ſent a Gentleman expreſly to know His Majeſty's Pleaſure upon that point fourteen days ago, and expects his return every day: And in the mean time, has aſſured the Council by Letters, and this day the Provoſt and Magiſtrates of the City, whom he ſent for to ſpeak with, that he

he will upon his Word and Honour be a good Neighbour, and not do them or the City any Prejudice.

Two days ago his Captain put an Oath to the Souldiers, whereby they bound themſelves to be faithful to His Majeſty, and their Superior Officers, and to defend the Proteſtant Religion, which being refuſed by twenty or thirty, whereof five were Papiſts, they were turned out.

There was a Pink arrived at *Leith* on *Thurſday*, ſent by His Majeſty. The Searchers ſeized two Boxes in it directed to the Chancellor, *&c.* and being brought to the Council, there were found in them ſeveral Precepts upon the Treaſury for payment of certain Sums to Papiſts, and ſome Commiſſions; in particular, a Commiſſion to one *Peter Winſte* (a Papiſt) to be Major of the Gates of the Caſtle, and have Power of all the Keys, without being accountable to the Lieutenant (who is a Proteſtant) but only to the Duke, and his Deputy, who is a Papiſt too.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 25.

THis Day the Students burnt the *Pope* ſolemnly at the Croſs before Thouſands of Spectators; our Privy Counſellors and Magiſtrates were Spectators, and no Inconveniences followed. The Students were divided according to their Claſſes, (that is, their Years of ſtanding) each Claſs with its Captain. They advanced orderly, with Swords in their Hands, and Hoitboys before them; the College Mace was carried before them by the under-Janitor in his Gown, and bare.

We have many Reports here of the Landing of *Iriſh-men*, but falſe; the whole Country is in Arms, and Apprehends the Papiſts; and at *Dumfrieſe* they have taken and impriſoned the Provoſt, with ſome other Papiſts and Prieſts, and guard their Town with Six Companies a-night; and have planted Cannon (taken from their Ships) at the Croſs and Ports, and recovered their Ammunition which was ſent to *Carlaverock* Caſtle.

Edin-

Edinburgh, Decemb. 27.

OUR Council has ſent an Addreſs to the Prince of *Orange*, at leaſt it may go hence on *Saturday* next. At *Glaſgow* the Prince of *Orange* was Proclaimed the *Proteſtant Protector*. The whole Country is up for the Prince, or at leaſt under pretence for their Safety againſt Papiſts; but there is no fear of them in this Kingdom, unleſs it be in *Nithiſdale* and *Galloway*; and I think neither there: However, there were ſome long Knives, or Bagonets, of a ſtrange ſhape, taken at *Kirkudbright*.

His

His Highness the PRINCE of *ORANGE* his Speech to the Scots Lords and Gentlemen.

With their Advice, and his Highness's Answer. With a True Account of what past at their Meeting in the Council-Chamber *at* Whitehal, *January* 7. $168\frac{8}{9}$.

His Highness the PRINCE of *Orange* having caused Advertise such of the *Scots* Lords and Gentlemen as were in Town, met them in a Room at St. *James*'s, upon *Monday* the Seventh of *January*, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, and had this Speech to them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE *only Reason that induced me to undergo so Great an Undertaking, was, That I saw the* Laws *and* Liberties *of these Kingdoms overturned, and the* Protestant Religion *in Eminent Danger: And seeing you are here so many Noblemen and Gentlemen, I have called you together, that I may have your Advice, what is to be done for Securing the* Protestant Religion, *and Restoring your* Laws *and* Liberties, *according to my* Declaration.

As ſoon as his Highneſs had retired, the Lords and Gentlemen went to the Council-Chamber at *Whitehall*; and having choſen the Duke of *Hamilton* their Preſident, they fell a conſulting, what Advice was fit to be given to his Highneſs in this Conjuncture: And after ſome Hours Reaſoning, they agreed upon the Materials of it, and appointed the Clerks, with ſuch as were to aſſiſt them, to draw up in writing, what the Meeting thought expedient, to adviſe his Highneſs, and to bring it in to the Meeting the next in the Afternoon.

Tueſday, the Eighth Inſtant, the Writing was preſented in the Meeting: And ſome time being ſpent in Reaſoning about the fitteſt way of Coveening a General Meeting of the Eſtates of *Scotland*. At laſt the Meeting came to agree in their Opinion, and appointed the Advice to be writ clean over, according to the Amendments. But as they were about to part for that Dyet, the Earl of *Arran* propoſed to them, as his Lordſhip's Advice, that they ſhould move the Prince of *Orange*, to deſire the *King* to return and call a *Free Parliament*, which would the beſt way to Secure the *Proteſtant* Religion and *Property*, and to Heal all *Breaches*. This Propoſal ſeemed to diſſatisfy the whole Meeting, and the Duke of *Hamilton* their Preſident, Father to the Earl, but they preſently parted.

Wedneſday, the Ninth of *January*, they met at three of the Clock in the ſame Room, and Sir *Patrick Hume* took notice of the Propoſal made by the Earl of *Arran*, and deſired to know if there was any there that would ſecond it: But none appearing to do it, he ſaid, That what the Earl had propoſed, was evidently oppoſite and inimicous to his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*'s Undertaking, his Declaration, and the Good Intentions of preſerving the *Proteſtant* Religion, and of Reſtoring their Laws and Liberties expreſt in it; and further, deſired that the Meeting ſhould declare this to be their Opinion of it. The Lord *Cardroſs* ſeconded Sir *Patrick*'s Motion: it was anſwered by the Duke of *Hamilton*, Preſident of the *Meeting*, That their Buſineſs was to prepare an Advice to be offered to the Prince; and the Advice being now ready to go to the Vote, there was no need that the Meeting ſhould give their Senſe of the Earl's Propoſal, which neither before nor after Sir *Patrick*'s Motion, any had pretended to own or ſecond;

cond; ſo that it was fallen and out of doors; and that the Vote of the Meeting, upon the Advice brought in by their Order, would ſufficiently declare their Opinion: This being ſeconded by the Earl of *Sutherland*, the Lord *Cardroſs*, and Sir *Patrick* did acquieſce in it; and the Meeting voted unanimouſly the Advice following.

To His HIGHNESS the

PRINCE of *ORANGE*.

WE *the Lords and Gentlemen of the Kingdom of* Scotland, *Aſſembled at your Highneſs's deſire, in this Extraordinary Conjunction, do give your Highneſs our humble and hearty Thanks for your Pious and Generous* Undertaking, *for Preſerving of the* Proteſtant Religion, *and Reſtoring the* Laws *and* Liberties *of theſe Kingdoms.*

In order to the Attaining theſe Ends, our humble Advice and Deſire is, That your Highneſs take upon You the Adminiſtration of all Affairs, both Civil and Military; the Diſpoſal of the Publick Revenues and Fortreſſes of the Kingdom of Scotland, *and the doing every Thing that is neceſſary for the Preſervation of the Peace of the Kingdom, until a General Meeting of the States of the Nation, which we humbly deſire your Highneſs to Call, to be holden at* Edinburgh *the Fourteenth day of* March *next, by your Letters or Proclamation, to be publiſhed at the Market-Croſſes of* Edinburgh, *and other Head-Boroughs of the ſeveral Shires and Stewartries, as ſufficient Intimation to All concerned, and according to the Cuſtom of the Kingdom: And that the Publication of theſe your Letters or*

Proclamation, be by the Sheriffs, or Stewart Clerks, for the Free-holders, who have the value of Lands, holden according to Law, for making Elections; and by the Town-Clerks of the ſeveral Burroughs, for the meeting of the whole Burgeſſes of the reſpective Royal Burroughs, to make their Elections at leaſt Fifteen Days before the Meeting of the Eſtates at Edinburgh; *and the Reſpective Clerks to make Intimation thereof, at leaſt Ten Days before the Meetings for Elections: And that the whole Electors and Members of the ſaid Meeting at* Edinburgh, *qualified as above expreſt, be Proteſtants, without any other Exception or Limitation whatſoever; to Deliberate and Reſolve what is to be done for ſecuring the Proteſtant Religion, and Reſtoring the Laws and Liberties of the Kingdom, according to Your Highneſs's Declaration. Dated at the Council-Chamber in* Whitehal *the Tenth Day of* January, 1689.

This Addreſs being Subſcribed by 30 Lords, and about 80 Gentlemen, was preſented in their preſence at St. *James*'s, by the Duke of *Hamilton* their Preſident, to his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, who thanked them for the Truſt they repoſed in him, and deſired a Time to conſider upon ſo weighty an Affair.

Upon the Fourteenth of *January*, his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* met again with the *Scots* Lords and Gentlemen at St. *James*'s; And ſpoke to them as follows.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN perſuance of your Advice, I will, untill the Meeting of the States in March *next, give ſuch Orders concerning the Affairs of* Scotland, *as are neceſſary for the Calling of the ſaid Meeting, for the Preſerving of the Peace; the applying of the Publick Revenue to the moſt preſſing Uſes, and putting the Fortreſſes in the Hands of Perſons, in whom the Nation can have a juſt Confidence: And I do further*

ther aſſure you, That you will always find me ready to concur with you in every Thing that may be found neceſſary for Securing the Proteſtant Religion, *and Reſtoring the* Laws *and* Liberties *of the Nation.*

The Earl of *Crawfourd* deſired of his Highneſs, That himſelf, the Earl of *Louthian*, and others, come to Town ſince the Addreſs was preſented, might have an opportunity to ſubſcribe it; which was accordingly done: His Highneſs retired, and all ſhewed great Satisfaction with his Anſwer.

A LETTER *to a Friend, adviſing in this Extraordinary Juncture, how to free the Nation from* SLAVERY *for ever.*

SIR,

I Doubt not but the Wiſdom of the Nation will take the moſt effectual way to ſecure our *Religion*, our *Liberties* and *Property*. However, being a Lover of all theſe, I can't forbear communicating my Thoughts unto you with an aſſurance you'l conſider them.

God hath done great things for us, and yet the greateſt thing is not yet done; there are many Difficulties in the way, and many more will be thrown into it. *Slavery* is moſt to be dreaded at this time: What is done muſt be chiefly to guard againſt it. How to do it, is the principal buſineſs of the Great Men in the next *Convention*. To know where we are, is the firſt ſtep to be taken. Is the Government diſſolved, or only under ſome Diſorders? If the latter; Are the Diſorders ſuch as muſt be laid to the Charge of the King, or to his Miniſters,

niſters, or both? If to the King; Are they ſufficient to depoſe him? If that be done, Are we more ſecure from *Slavery* than now? Will there be more than a Change of Perſons in the Throne? A Child for a Father, a Proteſtant for a Papiſt? And in a few Years the Succeſſion may fall to the Queen of *Spain*, or Dutcheſs of *Savoy*, both Roman Catholicks, and we in as great, or greater danger of *Popery* and *Slavery* than we were the other day; the Conſtitution remains the ſame, the *Jura Majeſtatis*, viz. the *Militia*; the Power to make War or Peace; the chooſing Judges, Sheriffs, *&c.* ſtill in the Perſon of the King; or if only by one Parliament reſtored to the People, another Parliament may give them the King again. *Leges Poſteriores priores abrogant.* And who can tell what Conteſts there may be about the Right of the Crown. The Depoſed Prince is alive, and his Right by Sword will be diſputed, *&c.*

If the Government be diſſolved, the Power devolves on the People; no one can claim the Crown; the Royal Family is as it were extinct; the People may ſet up what Government they pleaſe, either the old, or a new; A Monarchy abſolute, or limited; or an Ariſtocracy or Democracy. If a Monarchy limited, ſuppoſing it moſtly ſuited to the temper of the *Engliſh*, they may chooſe what Family they pleaſe to ſit in the Throne: They may ſettle it on the *Princeſs of Orange*, *Princeſs Ann*, the *Prince of Orange*, and for want of Iſſue, on whom elſe they think meet. Theſe hold not by virtue of an old Right, but by reaſon of the People's placing it upon them, and the Monarchy may be thus, *de Novo*, made Hereditary, and the *King* and *Prince of Wales* gone, having loſt their Right by the Diſſolution of the Government. The *Jura Majeſtatis*, the *Militia*, the Power of War and Peace, or the Power of the Sword, with the Power of making Judges, Sheriffs, *&c.* may be lodged where now the Power of Legiſlation is, *viz.* in King, Lords, and Commons, which will neceſſitate frequent Parliaments, and make it impoſſible for the Monarch to enſlave us. There are but two ways by which *Slavery* can be brought on us, *viz.* *Force* or *Injuſtice*. The *Militia*, or Power of the Sword, being in the People, we are ſecured from the miſchief of *Force*. The Power of making Judges and all the Miniſters of Juſtice being alſo in the People, they cannot be ruin'd by *Injuſtice*.

But

But we muſt do no Evil that Good may come of it. Is our Government diſſolved, or is it not? If there be a Diſſolution, Is it of the Conſtitution, or only of the Form of Adminiſtration? I confeſs my ſelf not States-man enough to be acquainted with the Fineneſs of the Politicks, but am apt to run the old Road, and pleaſe my ſelf with an old Diſtinction, All Power is *Originally*, or *Fundamentally* in the People, *Formally* in the *Parliament*, which is one Corporation made up of three *Conſtituent Eſſentiating* Parts, King, Lords and Commons, ſo it was with us in *England*. When this Corporation is broken, when any one Eſſentiating Part is loſt or gone, there is a Diſſolution of the Corporation. The *Formal* Seat of *Power*, and that *Power* devolves on the People. When it's Impoſſible to have a Parliament, the Power returns to them with whom it was originally. Is it poſſible to have a *Parliament?* It's not poſſible. The Government therefore is diſſolv'd.

If what is eſſential to our Conſtitution be invaded or raviſhed from us, the Conſtitution is broken. I will inſtance in two things eſſential to the Conſtitution. That the People chooſe their own *Repreſentatives*. And that their *Repreſentatives* have ſuch an Intereſt in the *Legiſlation*, that no Laws be made or abrogated without their Conſent. The deſtroying one or both of theſe, ſubverts the Foundation of our Goverment.

The Government being diſſolved, what muſt the People do? Care muſt be taken that the Government to be erected by ſuch as will perfectly ſecure us from *Slavery*; and be a Fence inviolable to the *Liberty* and *Property* of the People: And the Rights of Majeſty muſt be therefore lodged with the *Parliament*; this will be grateful to the People. The way of doing it muſt be *Great*, *Awful*, and *Auguſt*, that none may be able to quarrel it. A National Convention made up of the *Repreſentatives* of the Community: That the Convention may be truly National, and repreſent the Community, it muſt be larger than a Houſe of Commons ordinarily is. It's this Convention that ſets up what kind of Government they pleaſe. If they'l have a Parliament made up of King, Lords and Commons, it's ſufficient that this Convention is ſo pleaſed. The Power of this Convention muſt be abſolute and uncontroulable, accountable to none but God. It gives Laws to

Kings,

Kings, yea to the whole Parliament, and ſets bounds unto it; it ſhall go ſo far, and no further. No Act of Parliament can be ſtrong enough to move the Foundation laid by this Convention. The Convention therefore, as it has more Power than a *Parliament*, and is it's *Creator*, it muſt have a larger Body. What think you therefore if the firſt thing done by the approaching Convention be the increaſing their Number. What if they double it? Whether by ordering every Market-Town to ſend up their Repreſentatives, or every Hundred, Wapentake, *&c.* or by ſome other way; according to the proportion of People, and publick Payments, as the wiſe Men of this Convention ſhall judg moſt practicable, that it may be the *Grand Council* of the Nation. I have unburdened my ſelf, and am

Jan. 5. 1688. *Your Humble Servant.*

The

Some Account of the Humble Application of the Pious and Noble Prelate, Henry *Lord Biſhop of* London, *with the Reverend Clergy of the* City, *and ſome of the Diſſenting Miniſters in it, To the Illuſtrious Prince* William Henry, *the Prince of* Orange, *on* Friday, September 21. 1688.

HE declared in Excellent Words, That they came to pay him their Humble Duties and moſt Grateful Reſpects for his very great and moſt hazardous Undertakings for their Deliverance, and the Preſervation of the Proteſtant Religion, with the Ancient Laws and Liberties of this Nation.

He addeth, That they gave up daily many Thankſgivings to Almighty God, who had hitherto been graciouſly pleaſed ſo wonderfully to preſerve his Perſon, and proſper and favour his good Deſign. And they promiſed the continuance of their ſerventeſt Prayers to the ſame God, and all Concurrent Endeavours in their Circumſtances, for the promoting yet further that Work which was ſo happily begun, and alſo for the perfecting of it, not only in this Kingdom, but in other Chriſtian Kingdoms.

He likewiſe ſuggeſted to the Good Prince, That ſome of the Diſſenting Miniſters, and their Brethren, were there preſent, who having the ſame ſenſe of his Coming hither, with themſelves, had joyned themſelves with them by him, to render Him their Humbleſt and moſt Grateful Reſentments.

His Highneſs was pleaſed to declare, That he thanked them for their Attendance, and acquainted them very briefly with the chiefeſt Ends of his Difficult and Chargeable Expedition: That indeed it was to Preſerve and Secure the Proteſtant Religion (his own Religion and their Religion) and aſſuring them he ſhould not think any th ng (not Life it ſelf) too dear to hazard in promoting and perfect-

ing ſo good a Work. Alſo he offered up (with great Devotion) his ſolemneſt Acknowledgments to Almighty God for his Preſence with him, and Bleſſing upon his Endeavours and Arms hitherto; and asked the Continuance of all their Prayers to God for him. —

The Addreſs of the Nonconformiſt Miniſters (in and about the City of London *) to his Highneſs the Prince of* ORANGE.

WEdneſday, *January* 2. divers of the Diſſenting Miniſters in and about *London*, that go under the Denominations of *Preſbyterial* and *Congregational*, to the Number of Ninety, or upwards, attended his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange* at St. *James*'s, being introduced by the Earl of *Devonſhire*, the Lord *Wharton*, and the Lord *Wiltſhire*. Their Senſe was repreſented by one of thoſe Miniſters to this effect, *viz.*

That they profeſſed their grateful Senſe of his Highneſs's Hazardous and Heroical Expedition, which the Favour of Heaven had made ſo ſurprizingly proſperous, *&c.*

That they eſteemed it a common Felicity, that the worthy Patriots of the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom, had unanimouſly concurred unto his Highneſs's Deſign; by whoſe moſt prudent Advice, the Adminiſtration of Publick Affairs was devolved in this difficult Conjuncture, into Hands which the Nation and World knew to be Apt for the greateſt Undertakings, and ſo ſuitable to the preſent Exigency of our Caſe.

That they promiſed the utmoſt Endeavour, which in their Stations they are capable of affording, for the promoting the excellent and moſt deſirable Ends, for which his Highneſs had declared.

That

That they added their continual fervent Prayers to the Almighty, for the Preſervation of his Highneſs's Perſon, and the Succeſs of his future Endeavours for the Defence and Propagation of the Proteſtant Intereſt throughout the Chriſtian World.

That they ſhould all moſt willingly have choſen, That for the Seaſon of paying this Duty to his Highneſs, when the Lord Biſhop, and the Clergy of *London* attended his Highneſs for the like purpoſe, (which ſome of them did, and which his Lordſhip was pleaſed condeſcendingly to make mention of to his Highneſs) had their notice of that intended Application been ſo early, as to make their more general Attendance poſſible to them at that time.

That therefore tho' they did now appear in a diſtinct Company, they did it not on a diſtinct Account, but on that only which is common to them and to all Proteſtants.

That tho' there were ſome of Eminent Note, whom Age and preſent Infirmities hindred from coming with them, yet they concurred in the ſame grateful Senſe of our common Deliverance.

His Highneſs was pleaſed very favourably to receive this Application, and to aſſure them, *That he came purpoſely for the Defence of the Proteſtant Religion; and that it was his own Religion, wherein he was Born and Bred, the Religion of his Country, and of his Anceſtors; That he was reſolv'd by the Grace of God always to adhere to it, and to do his utmoſt Endeavours for the Defence of it, and the promoting a firm Union among all Proteſtants.*

The Speech *of the Recorder of* Briſtol *to his Highneſs the Prince of* Orange, Monday, January *the* 7th, 1688. *The Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Commons of the Principal Citizens of the City of* Briſtol, *waited upon the Prince of* Orange, *being introduced by his Grace the Duke of* Ormond, *their High-Steward, and the Earl of* Shrewsbury: *Where the Recorder ſpake to this effect:*

May it pleaſe your Highneſs,

THE Reſtitution of our Religion, Laws, and Liberties, and the Freeing us from that Thraldom which hath rendred us for many Years uſeleſs, and at laſt dangerous to the Common Intereſt of the Proteſtant World, by your Highneſs's ſingular Wiſdom, Courage, and Conduct, are not only a Stupendious Evidence of the Divine Favour and Providence for our Preſervation; but will be, and ought to be an Everlaſting Monument of your Highneſs's Magnanimity, and other the Heroick Vertues which Adorn your Great Soul, by whom ſuch a Revolution is wrought in this Nation, as is become the Joy and Comfort of the Preſent, and will be the Wonder of all Succeeding Ages,

In the Contrivance and Preparation of which Great Work, your Highneſs (like the Heavens) did ſhed your propitious Influences upon us, whilſt we ſlept, and had ſcarce any proſpect from whence we might expect our Redemption.

But as ſince your happy Arrival in *England*, we did amongſt the firſt, Aſſociate our ſelves to aſſiſt and promote your Highneſs's moſt Glorious Deſign, with our Lives and Fortunes; ſo we now think our ſelves bound in the higheſt Obligation of Gratitude, moſt humbly to preſent to your Highneſs our humble and hearty Thanks, for this our Deliverance from Popery, and Arbitrary Power; and likewiſe, for declaring your Gracious Intentions, That by the Advice of the Eſtates of this Kingdom, you will Rectifie the late Diſorders in the Government, both Eccleſiaſtical and Civil, according to the known Laws. The due and inviolable Obſervation of which, will in our poor Opinion, be the only proper Means to render the Soveraign Secure, and both Sovereign and Subject happy.

To which his Highneſs returned a moſt Gracious Anſwer.

A Word to the Wiſe, *for Settling the* Government.

IT is an Univerſal Truth, That no Nation can ſubſiſt without ſome Government; and the Wiſdom of this Nation hath framed their Government, to conſiſt in a King, the Lords, and the Commons.

In theſe three Conjunct, wholly reſides the Power of making and altering Laws, for the Common Good of the whole; and is called the Legiſlative Power.

The King alone is entruſted with the due Execution of theſe Laws, for the Preſervation, Protection, and Comfort of the People, both in Church and State; and this Truſt and Power is called the *Regal Power*.

If then this Nation, being *Proteſtant*, and under *Proteſtant Laws*, have a King, who ſhall declare himſelf a Zealous *Roman Catholick*, and put himſelf under the Power and Conduct of the Papal Juriſdiction, admitting the *Pope's Supremacy*, Nuntio, Biſhops, Appeals,

peals, &c. And to his power endeavour to Eſtabliſh the Popiſh Religion in the Realm;

Queſt. I. Whether ſuch a King hath not thereby made himſelf Incompetent, and uncapable to Govern a *Proteſtant Church*, and a *Proteſtant People*, by their *Proteſtant Laws?* and notoriouſly Abdicated or Renounced the Government?

II. If a King, entruſted with the Regal Power, *ut ſupra*, ſhall Subvert the Fundamental Laws; Diſpenſe with Statutes; Deſtroy Colleges and Corporations; Erect High and Illegal Courts; Invade the Peoples Freeholds, and Free Elections to Parliament; put the Ports and Power of the Nation into Enemies hands; Protect and Promote Traytors; and turn the Protective Power of the Nation to the Ruine and Deſtruction of the People, their Laws and Religion: Whether by ſo doing, ſuch a King doth not, in Fact, declare, That he will not Rule the Kingdom by its Laws and Conſtitutions, but by his own Abſolute Will and Pleaſure?

III. If a King ſo entruſted with the *Regal Power*, *ut ſupra*, ſhall, and do voluntarily depart the Realm, with the Signals of Government, without any proviſion for the Publick Adminiſtration, and ſo deſerting both the People, Place and Power; Whether ſuch a King hath not Diveſted himſelf of that Truſt and Regal Power?

IV. If ſo, and the Lawyers Rule be true, (*Quod non eſt hæres Viventis*) Then whether this Regal Power be Deſcended, ſo long as the King is Living?

V. If the Regal Power be Fallen, and yet not Deſcended; whether of neceſſity it muſt not fall to its Center, or Root from whence it Sprang, which is the whole Nation, now conſiſting in Lords and Commons, as it muſt have fallen, if the King had died without Heir?

VI. If the Regality then be not Deſcended, but thus Laps'd to the People, and that this moſt Excellent Government, is therein become Defective; whether it be not of neceſſity, that this defect be ſupplied by a ſpeedy Conſtituting ſome Perſon to that Office, Power, and Truſt, to compleat the Government?

VII. If that be ſo; Then what Perſon, in this preſent Juncture of Affairs, is moſt proper to be therewith Inveſted? Whether one, who at the Nations charge, at all Times, and upon all Occaſions, and to the utmoſt Extremities, hath given undeniable Evidence to the World, of his conſtant Reſolution and endeavours to Subvert the Religion, Laws, and Liberties of his People; Or one, who at his

his own Charge, and, at the peril of his own Honour, Life, and Fortune, hath Reſcued and Delivered the Nation from that deplorable Condition and Danger; and whoſe Wiſdom, Vertue, Courage, and Conduct, is an Honour to the Age, the Joy of all good Men, and the Fear of Bad, both here and abroad, and who muſt adorn that People, over whom he ſhall preſide?

VIII. If then the Crown be thus fallen, and muſt be placed *de novo*; Whether it was ever more neceſſary than now, to ſettle and limit the Succeſſion thereof (as it hath been often done) by Parliament; in regard there are but Three Perſons of the Proteſtant Religion, and of the Royal Blood, *viz.* his *Highneſs*, and the Two *Princeſſes*, not much different in Age, beyond whom the Deſcendants are many, and all *Roman Catholicks*?

IX. Whether then it may not be adviſeable it be limited to the Prince for Life; the Remainder to his Princeſs, and the Heirs of her Body; the Remainder to the Princeſs *Ann*, and the Heirs of her Body; the Remainder to the Prince, and the Heirs of his Body: In Default of ſuch Iſſue, to ſuch Perſon and Perſons, as the Lords and Commons, then laſt ſitting in Parliament, ſhall Declare and Appoint?

X. Whether ſuch Limitation will not avoid all Queſtions which may at preſent, or hereafter ariſe, touching the Title of the Crown, either near, or remote, and ſettle and preſerve the Peace of the Nation for ever?

XI. Whether ſo doing will not prevent any ſcruple her Highneſs may have, of accepting the Crown in her Father's Life-time, as did ariſe in the Son of King *Edward* the Second?

XII. Whether thereby the Nation will not in ſome meaſure expreſs its Duty and Gratitude to his Highneſs, who (under God) hath Redeemed and Delivered it from Popery and Slavery, and raiſed his own Merit above the level of a Subject?

XIII. Whether this Great Prince, whom God hath advanced for the Conduct and Safety of the Proteſtant World, will not be the freer to accompliſh thoſe Glorious Ends?

XIV. Whether the Two Royal Daughters, conſidering ſuch his Highneſs's ſecuring their Right and Succeſſion to the Crown of theſe Realms, againſt all Popiſh Endeavours to hinder the ſame, will not ſee juſt Cauſe to promote the Limitations aforeſaid?

XV. And

XV. And lastly, Whether the Wisdom and Interest of the Nation doth not oblige all good Men to concur with his Highness, and his most Noble Declaration, and Gracious Designs, To Establish their Religion, their Liberties and Properties, beyond all Humane Power of Violation, or Subversion for the Time to come?

A Modest PROPOSAL *to the present* CONVENTION.

THE thing that offers it self in this great *Conjuncture* is, to have a *Grand Committee* of *Lords* and *Commons* (Forty at least from each House) to be as a *Privy Council*, or *Council* of *State*, or Governing *Senate*.

It were to be wished, that Twenty of each Forty might be for Life; and the other Twenty Biennial, Ten going off every Year. Or half might be changed Annually.

Each *Senator* or *Counsellor* to have for his Salary or Maintenance, a Thousand Pounds a Year. This would be such an Advancement to the *Nobility* and *Gentry*, as *England* never saw. And the Charge is a Trifle. There is more spent in some *Monarchies*, upon Hawks, Hounds, and Whores.

The *Prince* to preside in this *Council* or *Senate* (or such Person as he shall appoint in his stead) and to have *Ten Votes* at least. He must also be *General* and *Admiral*; and must have such further Powers, and such a Maintenance or Revenue, as his Great Merits require. But withal, such as are consistent with the *Government* he designs for us. The *Prince*'s Maintenance should equal, or exceed, that of all the *Senators* put together.

All that are of this *Council*, and all that hope to be, (that is, all the Considerable Men of the Nation) will by this means be firm to the *Prince*. And so will those others who have the great Priviledge of Chooſing them, whereby they may have Confidence

[illegible] will give the Prince

ſo ſtrong an Intereſt, that he needs fear no Pretenſion that can be againſt him. It will be better than a *Standing Army*: The neceſſity whereof nothing can prevent, but ſuch a Standing Council.

The *Parliament* to be Choſen Triennially, and to meet Annually.

It is believed that ſuch a Conſtitution as this, would effectually Secure us (according to the *Princes* good Intentions) from *Popery* and *Tyranny*. And the *Prince* will be the glorious Author of the *Britannick* Liberty, as his Great Grand-Father was of the *Belgick*. The *Genoeſes* to this day adore the Memory of *Andrew Doria*, who choſe rather to make them a *Free State*, than to be their *Prince*. Barely to change our *Maſter*, would but revive the Feuds of *York* and *Lancaſter*, and involve us in the like Calamities.

Theſe things to continue but during the Life of the *King*, and not to prejudice a Proteſtant Succeſſor.

A Short Hiſtorical Account *touching the* Succeſſion *of the* CROWN.

IN the Heptarchy, there was no fixt Hereditary Right; one King tripping up the Heels of another, as he had Power, till one got all.

Afterward no fixt Hereditary Right; for *Athelſtan*, the Great King, was a *Baſtard*; and ſo were ſeveral others; why by their Courage and Policy got the Crown; ſo that a Law was made, under the *Saxon* Monarchy, *de Ordinatione Regnam*, that directed the Election of Kings, prohibiting *Baſtards* to be Elected.

Edward the Conſeſſor was not King, *Jure Hereditario*.

William the Firſt (called the *Conqueror*) had no Right, but from the Peoples Election.

William Ruffus was Elected againſt the Right of his Elder Brother.

Henry the Firſt came in by the ſame way.

King *Stephen* was Elected, *a Clero & Populo*, and Confirmed by the Pope.

Henry the Second came in by Conſent, yet he had no Hereditary Right, for his Mother was living.

Richard the First was charged before God and Men by the Arch-Bishop, upon his Coronation, that he should not presume to take the Crown, unless he resolved faithfully to observe the Laws.

King *John*, his Brother, because his Elder Brother's Son was a Foreigner, was Elected *a Clero & Populo*, and being Divorced from his Wife, by his new Queen he had *Henry* the Third.

Henry the Third was Confirmed, and Setled in the Kingdom, by the General Election of the People; and in his Life-time, the Nation was Sworn to the Succession of *Edward* the First, before he went to the *Holy Land*.

Edward the First being out of *England*, by the Consent of Lords and Commons, was declared King.

Edward the Second being misled, and relying too much upon his Favourites, was Depos'd, and his Son was declared King in his Life-time.

Richard the Second, for his evil Government, had the Fate of the Second *Edward*.

Henry the Fourth came in by Election of the People, to whom Succeeded *Henry* the Fifth, and *Henry* the Sixth, in whose time *Richard* Duke of *York* claimed the Crown; and an Act of Parliament was made, that *Henry* the Sixth should enjoy the Crown for his Life, and the said Duke after him; after which, King *Henry* raises an Army, by Assistance of the Queen and Prince; and at *Wakefield*, in Battel, kills the Duke; for which, 1 *Ed.* 4. they were all, by Act of Parliament, Attainted of Treason; and one principal Reason thereof, was, for that the Duke being declared Heir to the Crown after *Henry*, by Act of Parliament, they had killed him.

Edward the Fourth enters the Stage, and leaves *Ed.* 5. to Succeed, to whom Succeeds *Richard* the Third, Confirmed King by Act of Parliament, upon Two *Reasons*: *First*, That by reason of a Precontract of *Edward* the Fourth, *Edward* the Fifth, his Eldest Son, and all his other Children were Bastards. *Secondly*, For that the Son of the Duke of *Clarence*, second Brother to *Edward* the Fourth, had no Right, because the Duke was Attainted of Treason, by a Parliament of *Ed.* the 4*th*.

Henry the Seventh comes in, but had no Title; *First*, Because *Edward* the Fourth's Daughter was then living: *Secondly*, His own Mother, the Countess of *Richmond*, was then living.

After

After him, *Henry* the Eighth wore the Crown, who could have no Title by the Father; in his time the Succeſſion of the Crown was Limitted ſeveral times, and the whole Nation Sworn to the Obſervance.

Sir *Thomas Moor* declared, That the Parliament had a Power to bind the Succeſſion, which was declared to be Law, by 13 *Eliz. cap.* 1. and made a *Præmunire* to hold the contrary.

Edward the Sixth ſucceeded, but his Mother was married to King *Henry*, while *Ann* of *Cleve*, his Wife, was living.

Queen *Mary* was declared a *Baſtard*; and by Vertue of an Act of Parliament of *Henry* the Eighth, ſhe Succeeded; which Act being Repealed in the Firſt of her Reign, and the Crown being Limitted otherwiſe by Parliament, all the Limitations of the Crown in King *Henry* the Eighth's Reign were avoided; ſo that

Queen *Elizabeth*, who was declared a *Baſtard*, by Act of Parliament in *Henry* the Eighth's time, and limitted to Succeed, in another Act in his time, and that Act repealed by Queen *Mary*, became Queen in the force of her own Act of Parliament, which declares her Lawful Queen.

The Crown was Entail'd in *Richard* the Second's time; again, in the time of *Henry* the Fourth; again, in the time of *Henry* the Sixth; again, in the time of *Edward* the Fourth; again, in the time of *Richard* the Third; again, in the time of *Henry* the Seventh; Thrice in the time of *Henry* the Eighth.

And upon the Marriage of Queen *Mary* to King *Philip* of *Spain*, both the Crowns of *England* and *Spain* were Entailed; whereby it was provided, that of the ſeveral Children to be Begotten upon the Queen, one was to have the Crown of *England*, another *Spain*, another the *Low-Countries*; the Articles of Marriage to this purpoſe, were Confirmed by Act of Parliament, and the Pope's Bull.

So that it was agreed by the States of both Kingdoms, and the *Low-Countries*, and therefore, probably, the Univerſal Opinion of the Great Men of that Age, That Kings and Sovereign Princes, with the Conſent of their States, had a Power to Alter and Bind the Succeſſion of the Crown; and never denied to be Law till the Reign of King *Charles* the Second.

True it is, that this Doctrine doth not go down well with thoſe that do pretend to Prerogative, added (as they ſay) by the Act of *Recognition* made to King *James*; and the Oaths of *Supremacy* and *Allegiance*, 1 *Jac.* 1. *cap.* 1.

which do make so much talk concerning Inheritance and Heirs: But let these Gentlemen consider, that the Act of *Recognition* made no Law for the future; nor doth the same cross the Statute of 13 *Eliz.* nor doth it take away the power of the Parliament from over-ruling the Course of the Common-Law for after-Ages. Nor do the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy* hold forth any such Obligation unto Heirs, otherwise than as supposing them to be Successors, and in that Relation only. And therefore, was no such Allegiance due to *Edward* the Sixth, Queen *Mary*, or Queen *Elizabeth*, until they were actually possest of the Crown, as may appear by the Oath
35 H. 8. cap. 1. forced by the Statute of *H.* 8. touching their Succession.
Nor did the Law suppose any Treason could be acted a-
6 E. 6. 11. 1, 2, 3. Om. 10. gainst the Heirs of *Ed.* 6. Queen *Mary*, or Queen *Eliz.* until these Heirs were actually possest of the Crown, and so were Kings and Queens, as by the express words in the several Statutes do appear. Nor did the *Recognition*, by
1 El. 6. the Parliament made to Queen *Elizabeth*, declare any engagement to the People to assist, and defend Her and the Heirs of Her Body, otherwise than with this Limitation, being Kings and Queens of this Realm; as by the Statute in
1 El. 3. that behalf made doth appear. Moreover, had these Oaths been otherwise understood, the Crown had by virtue of them been preingaged, so as it could never have Descended to Queen *Mary*, Queen *Elizabeth*, or King *James*, but must have remained to the Heirs of *Edward* the Sixth for ever.

A

A Narrative of the Miſeries of New-England, *by reaſon of an Arbitrary Government Erected there.*

THat a Colony ſo conſiderable as *New-England* is, ſhould be diſcouraged, is not for the Honour and Intereſt of the *Engliſh Nation*; in as much as the People there are generally Sober, Induſtrious, Well-Diſciplin'd, and apt for Martial Affairs; ſo that he that is Sovereign of *New-England*, may by means thereof (when he pleaſeth) be Emperor of *America*: Nevertheleſs, the whole Engliſh Intereſt in that Territory has been of late in apparent danger of being loſt and ruined, and the Miſeries of that People by an Arbitrary Government erected amongſt them, have been beyond Expreſſion great.

The original of all which has been the *Quo Warranto*'s iſſued out againſt their *Charters*; by means whereof they have been deprived of their *ancient Rights and Priviledges.*

As for the *Maſſachuſets Colony* (whoſe Patent beareth date from the Year 1628.) There was in the Year 1683, a *Quo Warranto*; and after that in the Year 1684, a Writ of *Scire Facias* againſt them, and they were required to make their appearance at *Weſtminſter* in *October*, which they knew nothing of till the month before, ſo that it was impoſſible for them to anſwer at the time appointed; yet Judgment was entred againſt them.

Plimouth Colony, after they had enjoyed their firſt Government above threeſcore years, (without ſo much as a pretence of Miſgovernment alledged) had all their Priviledges at once taken from them. There was a *Quo Warranto* againſt *Conecticot Colony* (whoſe Charter was granted to them by King *Charles* the Second) only Letters were ſent to them in the King's Name, ſignifying, that (in caſe they did reſign their Charter) they ſhould take their choice of being under *New-York* or *Boſton*. Several of the Magiſtrates there returned a moſt humble and ſupplicatory Anſwer, praying, That their former Government might ſtill continue; but that if it muſt be taken from them,

them, they had rather be under *Boston* than *New-York*: This was by ſome at Court interpreted a Reſignation of their Charter, and a Commiſſion ſent to Sir *Edmond Andros*, who went with ſome armed Attendants to *Hartford* (their principal Town) and declared their Charter and former Government to be void. As for *Road Iſland*, they ſubmitted themſelves to His Majeſties pleaſure.

Before theſe Changes happened, *New-England* was of all the Foreign Plantations (their Enemies themſelves being Judges) the moſt flouriſhing and deſirable.

But their Charters being all (one way or other) declared to be void and inſignificant, it was an eaſy matter to erect a French Government in that part of the King's Dominions, (no doubt intended by the Evil Counſellors) as a *Specimen* of what was deſigned to be here in *England*, as ſoon as the times would bear it. Accordingly Sir *Edmond Andros* (a *Gernſey*-man) was pitched on as a fit Inſtrument to be made uſe of; and a moſt Illegal Commiſſion given him, bearing date *June* 3, 1686, by which he, with four of his Council, (perhaps all of them his *abſolute Devotees*) are impower'd to make Laws and raiſe Moneys on the Kings Subjects without any Parliament, Aſſembly, or Conſent of the People.

It was thought by Wiſe Men, that the Remembrance of *Dudley* and *Empſon*, who were in the days of King *Henry* the Eighth executed for acting by a like Commiſſion, would have deterred them from doing ſo; But it did not, for Laws are made by a few of them, and indeed what they pleaſe: nor are they printed, as was the Cuſtom in the former Governments, ſo that the People are at a great loſs to know what is Law, and what not. Only one Law they are ſenſible of, which doth prohibit all Town-Meetings, excepting on a certain Day once a Year; whereas the Inhabitants have occaſion to meet once a Month, ſometimes every Week, for relief of the Poor, or other Town-Affairs. But it is eaſy to penetrate into the Deſign of this Law, which was (no Queſtion) to keep them in every Town from complaining to *England*, of the Oppreſſion they are under: And (as Laws have been Eſtabliſhed) ſo Moneys have been Raiſed by the Government in a moſt Illegal and Arbitrary way, without any conſent of the People. Sir *Edmond Andros* cauſed a Tax to be leavied of a Penny in a Pound on all the Towns then under his Government: And when at *Ipſwich* and other places, the *Select Men* (as they are there ſtiled) voted, That inaſmuch as it was againſt the Common Priviledges of Engliſh Subjects, to have Money raiſed without their

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own Consent in an Assembly or Parliament; That therefore they would petition the King for liberty of an Assembly before they made any Rates; the said Sir *Edmond Andross* caused them to be Imprisoned and Fined, some 20*l.* some 30*l.* and some 50*l.* as the Judges, by him instructed, should see meet to determine; Yea, and several Gentlemen in the Country were Imprisoned and bound to their Good Behaviour, upon meer suspicion, that they did incourage their Neighbours not to comply with these Arbitrary Proceedings. And that so they might be sure to effect their Pernicious Designs, they have caused Juries to be pick'd of Men who are not of the Vicinity, and some of them meer Strangers in the Country, and no Freeholders: which actings are highly Illegal. One of the former Magistrates was committed to Prison without any Crimes laid to his Charge, and there kept half a Year without any Fault; and tho he petitioned for a *Habeas Corpus*, it was denied him. Also inferiour Officers have extorted what Fees they please to demand, contrary to all Rules of Reason and Justice. They make poor Widows and Fatherless pay 50*s.* for the Probate of a Will, which under the former easy Government would not have been a Tenth part so much. Six Persons who had been illegally imprisoned, were forced to give the Officers 117*l.* whenas upon Computation, they found that here in *England* their Fees would not have amounted to 10*l.* in all. And yet these things (tho bad enough) are but a very small part of the Misery which that poor People have been groaning under, since they have been governed by a Dispotick and Absolute Power. For, their new Masters tell them, that their Charter being gone, their Title to their Lands and Estates is gone therewith, and that All is the Kings; and that They represent the King; and that therefore all Persons must take Patents from them, and give what they see meet to impose, that so they may enjoy the Houses which their own Hands have built, and the Lands, which at vast Charges in subduing a Wilderness, they have for many Years had a rightful possession of, as ever any People in the World had or can have: Accordingly the Governor ordered the Lands belonging to some in *Charles-Town* to be measured out, & given to his Creatures, and *Writs of Intrusion* to be issued out against others: And the Commons belonging to several Towns have been given to some of the Governours Council, who begged them, to the impoverishing, if not utter ruining of whole Townships. And when an Island belonging to the Town of *Plimouth* was petitioned away from them by one *Nathaniel Clark*, (whom Sir *Edmond Andross* made

made his Property) becauſe the Agents of the ſaid Town obtained a voluntary Subſcription to maintain their Title at Law, they were compelled to come not only out of their own Country, but Colony, to *Boſton*, to anſwer there as Criminals at the next Aſſizes, and bound to their good Behaviour: The Officers in the mean time extorting 3 *l. per* Man for Fees. Theſe were the miſerable Effects of *New-England*'s being deprived of their Charters, and with them of their Engliſh Liberties: They have not been altogether negligent, as to endeavours to obtain ſome relief in their ſorrowful Bondage; for ſeveral Gentlemen deſired *Increaſe Mather*, the Rector of the Colledge at *Cambridge* in *New-England*, to undertake a Voyage for *England*, to ſee what might be done for his diſtreſſed Country, which Motion he complied with; and in *June* the 1*ſt* 1688, he had the favour to wait on the King, and privately to acquaint him with the enſlaved and periſhing Eſtate of his Subjects in *New-England*. The King was very gracious and kind in his Expreſſions; then, and often after promiſing to give them eaſe as to their Complaints and Fears: Amongſt other things the ſaid *Mather* cauſed a Petition from the Town of *Cambridge* in *New-England* to be humbly preſented to His Majeſty; which becauſe it doth expreſs the Deplorable Condition of that People, it ſhall be here inſerted.

To the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty.

The Petition and Addreſs of John Gibſon, *aged about* 87, *and* George Willow, *aged about* 86 *Years; as alſo on the behalf of their Neighbours the Inhabitants of* Cambridge *in* New-England.

In moſt humble wiſe ſheweth,

THat Your Majeſty's good Subjects, with much hard Labour and great Diſburſements, have ſubdued a Wilderneſs, built our Houſes, and planted Orchards, being incouraged by our indubitable Right to the Soil by the Royal Charter granted unto the Firſt Planters, together with our Purchaſe of the Natives; as alſo by ſundry Letters and Declarations ſent to the late Governour and Company, from His late Majeſty Your Royal Brother, aſſuring

aſſuring us of the full enjoyment of our Properties and Poſſeſſions, as is more eſpecially contained in the Declaration ſent when the *Quo Warranto* was iſſued out againſt our Charter.

But we are neceſſitated to make this our Moan and Complaint to Your Excellent Majeſty, for that our Title is now queſtioned to our Lands, by us quietly poſſeſſed for near ſixty Years, and without which we cannot ſubſiſt. Our humble Addreſs to our Governour Sir *Edmond Androſs*, ſhewing our juſt Title, long and peaceable poſſeſſion, together with our Claim of the benefit of Your Majeſty's Letters and Declarations, aſſuring all Your good Subjects, that they ſhall not be moleſted in their Properties and Poſſeſſions, not availing.

Royal Sir, We are a poor People, and have no way to procure Money to defend our Cauſe in the Law; nor know we of Friends at Court, and therefore unto Your Royal Majeſty, as the publick Father of all your Subjects, do we make this our humble Addreſs for Relief, beſeeching Your Majeſty graciouſly to paſs Your Royal Act for the Confirmation of Your Majeſty's Subjects, here in our Poſſeſſions to us derived from our late Governour and Compauy of this Your Majeſty's Colony: We now humbly caſt our ſelves, and diſtreſſed Condition of our Wives and Children, at Your Majeſty's Feet, and conclude with the ſaying of Queen *Eſther*, *If we Periſh, we Periſh.*

Thus that Petition.

Beſides this, Mr. *Inc. Mather*, with two *New-England* Gentlemen, preſented a Petition and humble Propoſals to the King, wherein they prayed that the Right which they had in their Eſtates before the Government was changed, might be confirmed; And that no Laws might be made, or Moneys raiſed, without an Aſſembly, with ſundry other particulars; which the King referred to a Committee for Foreign Plantations, who ordered them into the Hands of the Attorney-General to make his Report. The Clerk, *William Blathwait* ſent to the Attorney-General a Copy, wherein the Eſſential Propoſal of an Aſſembly was wholly left out. And being ſpoke to about it, he ſaid the Earl of *Sunderland* blotted out that with his own Hand; likewiſe a Soliciter in this Cauſe related that the ſaid Earl of *Sunderland* affirmed to him, that it was by his Advice that the King had given a Commiſſion to Sir *Edmond Androſs* to raiſe Moneys without an Aſſembly, and that he knew the King would never conſent to an Alteration, nor would he propoſe it to His Majeſty. When of late all Charters were reſtored to *England*, it was highly rational for *New-*

England to expect the like; for if it be an illegal and unjuſt thing to deprive good Subjects here of their *Antient Rights and Liberties*, it cannot be conſiſtent with Juſtice and Equity to deal ſo with thoſe that are afar off; Applications therefore were made to the King, and to ſome Miniſters of State. It was urged, that if a Foreign Prince or State ſhould, during the preſent Troubles, ſend a Frigate to *New-England*, and promiſe to protect them, as under their former Government, it would be an unconquerable temptation; yet no Reſtoration of Charters would be granted to *New-England*, which has opened the Eyes of ſome thinking Men. Thus hath *New-England* been dealt with: This hath been, and ſtill is the bleeding ſtate of that Country.

They cannot but hope that *England* will ſend them ſpeedy Relief; eſpecially conſidering that through the ill Conduct of their preſent Rulers, the French Indians are (as the laſt Veſſels from thence inform) beginning their cruel Butcheries amongſt the Engliſh in thoſe parts; And many have fears that there is a deſign to deliver that Country into the Hands of the French King, except his Highneſs the Prince of *Orange*, whom a Divine Hand has raiſed up to deliver the Oppreſſed, ſhall happily and ſpeedily prevent it.

FINIS.